

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 50, and amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for handling a tubular, comprising:
a first gripping member operatively coupled to a second gripping member to retain the tubular;
the first gripping member including a first jaw; and
the second gripping member including a second jaw, wherein at least one of the jaws has an actuator coupled to one of the gripping members configured to move the at least one jaw independent of the gripping member in order to apply a force to the tubular and a second actuator configured to cause the first and second gripping members to engage the tubular and apply an increased force to the tubular, wherein the second actuator comprises a spindle.
- 2-4. (Cancelled)
5. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein rotating the spindle moves the first gripping member relative to the second gripping member.
6. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the second actuator is adapted to resist elastic deformation.
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the second actuator includes one or more arcuate contact surfaces.
9. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the force is applied by a cylinder.

10. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second jaws includes a spherical bearing.

11. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising one or more force distributors comprising pendulum bolts attached to the first and second gripping members.

12. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the actuator is a hydraulic cylinder.

13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second jaws includes a spherical bearing.

14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising one or more force distributors comprising pendulum bolts connecting the first and second jaw to the first and second gripping members.

15-46. (Cancelled)

47. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising the first gripping member is rotatable relative to the second gripping member.

48-50. (Cancelled)

51. (Currently Amended) An adjustable tubular handling assembly, comprising:
a wrenching tong, for gripping and applying torque to a tubular, wherein the wrenching tong comprises:

two clamping members, each clamping member having a clamping surface that is substantially parallel to the other clamping member's clamping

Page 3

480303_1

surface, the clamping surfaces being moveable toward and away from each other while remaining ~~[[in]]~~ ~~[[a]]~~ substantially parallel plane, ~~wherein at least one of the clamping members is actuatable;~~

~~[[an]]~~ a first actuator for actuating at least one of the clamping members and configured to apply a gripping force to the tubular;

a jaw attachable to at least one of the clamping members for gripping the tubular;

a second actuator mounted on one of the clamping members for actuating the jaw independently of the clamping member and configured to apply an additional gripping force to the tubular;

a wrenching member for rotating the wrenching tong; and
a backup tong.

52. (Currently Amended) The adjustable tubular handling assembly of claim 51, wherein the first actuator moves at least one of the clamping members into gripping engagement with ~~for gripping~~ the tubular.

53. (Previously Presented) The adjustable tubular handling assembly of claim 51, wherein one of the clamping members is moveable and one is a fixed member.

54. (Previously Presented) The adjustable tubular handling assembly of claim 53, wherein the second actuator is on the fixed member.

55. (Currently Amended) The adjustable tubular handling assembly of claim 51, wherein the first actuator is a spindle.

56. (Currently Amended) The adjustable tubular handling assembly of claim 55, wherein the second actuator ~~[[is]]~~ comprises a fluidly actuated piston and cylinder to ~~fluidly actuate the jaw.~~

57. (Currently Amended) The adjustable tubular handling assembly of claim 56, wherein the wrenching member ~~[[is]]~~ comprises a second ~~fluidly actuated~~ piston and cylinder adapted to rotate to fluidly actuate the wrenching tong.

58. (Currently Amended) The adjustable tubular handling assembly of claim 51, wherein further comprising the backup tong comprises comprising:

two backup clamping members, each backup clamping member having a backup clamping surface that is substantially parallel to the other backup clamping members backup clamping surface, the backup clamping surfaces being moveable toward and away from each other while remaining [[in]] [[a]] substantially parallel plane, wherein at least one of the backup clamping members is actuable;

a first backup actuator for actuating at least one of the backup clamping members;

a backup jaw attachable to one of the backup clamping members for gripping the tubular; and

a second backup actuator mounted on the backup clamping member for actuating the backup jaw independently of the backup clamping member.

59. (Currently Amended) A method for handling a tubular comprising:
providing a wrenching tong having, wherein the wrenching tong comprises;

two clamping members;

[[an]] a first actuator for actuating at least one of the clamping members;

a jaw attachable to one of the clamping members;

a second actuator for actuating the jaw independently of the clamping members; and

a wrenching member for rotating the wrenching tong;

actuating the first actuator and moving to move at least one of the clamping members toward the tubular, thereby gripping the tubular with the jaw;

actuating the second actuator to cause the jaw to apply thereby applying an additional gripping force to the tubular with the jaws;

rotating the tubular using the wrenching member.

60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59, further comprising completing a connection and releasing the tubular.

61. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59, further comprising adjusting the two clamping members for a larger diameter tubular.

62. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 61, further comprising actuating the actuator and moving at least one of the clamping members thereby gripping the larger diameter tubular with the jaw.

63. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59, further comprising adjusting the two clamping members for a smaller diameter tubular.

64. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 63, further comprising actuating the actuator and moving at least one of the clamping members thereby gripping the smaller diameter tubular with the jaw.

65. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59, further comprising gripping the tubular with a backup tong.

66. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 65, ~~further comprising providing the backup tong wherein the backup tong comprises:~~

two backup clamping members wherein at least one of the backup clamping members is actuatable;

a first backup actuator for actuating at least one of the backup clamping members;

a backup jaw attachable to one of the backup clamping members; and

a second backup actuator for actuating the backup jaw.

PATENT
Atty. Dkt. No. WEAT/0485

67. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59, wherein the actuator is a spindle.

68. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 59, wherein the clamping members define a substantially parallel surfaces that move toward and away from each other when actuating the first actuator.

Please add the following new claims:

69. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first gripping member and the second gripping member are configured to move toward and away from one another while the first and second jaws remain substantially in linear alignment with one another.

70. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising the first gripping member having a first clamping surface that is substantially parallel to the a second clamping surface of the second gripping member, the clamping surfaces being moveable toward and away from each other while remaining substantially parallel.

71. (New) The adjustable tubular handling assembly of claim 52, wherein the first actuator moves the clamping members linearly.

72. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein the first actuator causes linear movement of at least one of the clamping members.

Page 7

480303_1